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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
OF PHILADELPHIA.

VOL. 3. JAN., AND FEB., 1847. No. 7.

Stated Meeting, January 5, 1847.

VICE PRESIDENT MORTON in the Chair.

DONATIONS TO MUSEUM.

Casts of the hand of *Troglodytes niger*, (Chimpanzee), and of the inferior extremity of the radius of a fossil mammal obtained near Richmond, Va. From Dr. J. Wyman.

Sternum of *Oidemia perspicillata*. From Mr. Woodhouse.

Specimens in skin, of *Putorius noveboracensis*, from Bucks Co., Pa.; *Sorex brevicaudatus*, Say, and *Vespertilio carolinensis*, Geof., from Chester Co., Pa.; and *V. noveboracensis*, L., from Newark, Del. From Dr. T. B. Wilson.

DONATIONS TO LIBRARY.

Annales des Mines. 4^me Série, Tome viii. Livs. 5 and 6 de 1845. In exchange.

Twenty-sixth Report of the Council of the Leeds Philosophical Society. Leeds: 1846. From the Society.

Message of the President of the United States, communicating a Report of an Expedition by Lieut. Abert to the Upper Arkansas, and through the country of the Camanche Indians, in the autumn of 1845. From Col. Abert.

Literary Record and Journal of the Linnean Association of Pennsylvania College. Vol. 3, No. 3. From the Association.

Sound and Sanctified Scholarship; an Address delivered at the Dedication of the new edifice of the Western University of Pennsylvania, on Tuesday, Sept. 8, 1846. By David H. Riddle, D. D. With introductory remarks by George Upfold, D. D. From the Author.

Observations of the Magnetic dip at several positions, made in 1840, 1842, 1843, 1844 and 1845. By Major James D. Graham, U. S. Topographical Engineer. (From the Trans. of Amer. Phil. Soc., Vol. ix.) Philadelphia: 1846. From the Author.

Proceedings of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences of Boston. May 26 to Dec. 1, 1846, inclusive. From the Academy.

Dr. Thomas B. Wilson deposited the following works:

Tableau Encyclopédique et Méthodique des trois règnes de la Nature. (Ornithologie.) Par l'Abbé Bonnaterre et L. P. Vieillot. 4 vols. 4to.

A General System of Nature, &c. By Sir Charles Linné: translated by Wm. Turton, M. D. 7 vols. 8 vo.

The Zoology of the Voyage of H. M. Ship Sulphur, under the command of Capt. Sir Edward Belcher, R. N., &c., during the years 1836 to 1842. Edited and superintended by Richard Brinsley Hinds, Esq., Surgeon to the Expedition. Vol. 1. 4to. London: 1844.

A Monograph of the Anatidæ or Duck tribe. By T. C. Eyton, Esq., F. L. S., &c. 1 vol. 4to. London, 1838.

Zoological Lectures delivered at the Royal Institution in 1806 and 1807. By George Shaw, M. D., F. R. S. 2 vols. large 8vo. London: 1809.

Atlas de Zoologie, ou Collection de 100 planches comprenant 257 fig. d'animaux nouveaux ou peu connues, classés d'après la méthode de M. de Blainville; avec une explication par M. Paul Gervais. 1 vol. 8vo. Paris: 1844.

A selection of the Birds of Brazil and Mexico. The drawings by William Swainson, Esq. 1 vol. 8vo. London : 1841.

Beitrage zur Naturgeschichte von Brasilien. Von Maximilian Prinzen zu Wied. Reptilia, Aves, Mammalia, 5 vols. 8vo.

Descriptiones Animalium quæ in itinere ad Maris Australis terras per annos 1772, 1773 and 1774 suscepto: collegit, observavit et deliniavit Joannes Reinoldus Forster, F.R.S.; nunc demum editæ auctoritate et impensis Academiæ Litterarum Regiæ Berolinæ, curante Henrico Lichtenstein. 1 vol. 8vo. Berlin : 1844.

Ornithological Dictionary of British Birds. By Col. G. Montague, F. L. S. 2d edition: by James Rennie, F. L. S. 8vo. London : 1831.

Journal of a Voyage to New South Wales; with sixty-five plates of nondescript Animals, Birds, and other natural productions. By John White, Esq., Surgeon to the Settlement. 1 vol. 4to. London : 1790.

Letters were read :

From Richard Brown, Esq., addressed to the Corresponding Secretary, dated Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia, Dec. 9th, 1846, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Correspondent.

The following extract from this letter is interesting :

"I have visited Cranberry Head several times recently, and have made a section and drawings of the fossil trees there. The first tree near the Point is based upon a small seam of coal: lately a large piece of the cliff has fallen down, and part of the tree with some of the coal under it. Fortunately it has exposed two long roots—one branching to the North and the other to the South—about seven feet each way. They are very broad and flat, and are *genuine Stigmaria*. I could not trace any rootlets, but the areolæ are not to be mistaken. I have preserved some large pieces, as also some of the bark, of the tree, which is apparently an irregularly fluted *Sigillaria*.

In a bed of Shale, some twenty feet lower in the section, I have also found several small upright trees, about eight inches diame-

ter, filled with soft shale, but having a pith of beautiful bright coal, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, running up the middle: the bark is fluted; the roots, long fibres, something like the leaves or rootlets of *Stigmara*."

From Wm. D. Breckenridge, Esq., dated Washington, Dec. 29, 1846, returning, with acknowledgments, a collection of ferns from the Berlin gardens, which had been loaned him by permission of the Society for examination and comparison.

From the Trustees of the Western University of Pennsylvania, dated Dec. 9, 1846, referring to the loss by fire lately sustained by that Institution of its entire Museum and Library, and asking for donations towards a renewal of the same, particularly the latter. Referred to the Library Committee.

Meeting for Business, January 26, 1847.

VICE PRESIDENT MORTON in the Chair.

The Report of the Corresponding Secretary was read and adopted.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the proposal of Mr. Henry Seybert to deposit his valuable chemical apparatus in the Academy, to become ultimately the property of the Institution—unless withdrawn by himself during his life time—and subject to its Rules and By-Laws on this head, be accepted.

The Society then proceeded to elect the usual Standing Committees for the year. The following result was reported by the Tellers :

COMMITTEES FOR 1847.

Geological and Mineralogical.

J. Price Wetherill,	W. R. Johnson,
S. G. Morton,	Samuel Ashmead,
Wm. S. Vaux,	Theodore F. Moss,
	Lewis T. Germain.